## **AMENDMENT**

## In the Claims:

Kindly amend the claims as follows:

23. (Amended) A method of liposculpturing an area of the body including a skin with multiple layers, and an underlying area made of a loculation of fat that has collagen tissue as a fibrous septae, comprising: providing a thermal energy source;

positioning an energy delivery surface of the thermal energy delivery device on an external surface of the skin;

creating a reverse thermal gradient which cools a top surface of the skin while heating the underlying loculation of fat, wherein a temperature of the external skin surface is lower than a temperature of the underlying loculation of fat;

heating the skin and underlying loculation of fat sufficiently to contract the collagen tissue of the fibrous septae [by partially denaturing the collagen tissue] while minimizing cellular destruction of the external skin surface; and

tightening at least a portion of the external surface of the skin.

27. (Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein the thermal energy source is an RF power source and one or more RF electrodes are positioned in [the] <u>a</u> membrane.

